(4) The Government are aware; the Government could not find anybody else.

(5) The question is not very clear. Mr. Krishna Menon was wanted for the Diwan Peishkar's place and, in the opinion of the Government, his place in the judiciary will be worthily filled by Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—With regard to answer to (1), may I know whether the Chief Court has been consulted officially in the matter ?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—No.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Then with reference to answer to (2). There is the question of the comparative merits of Mr. Krishna Menon. He may be competent in that Department as well. The question is whether the Government could not find a competent hand in the Revenue or other Executive Departments to be appointed as acting Diwan Peishkar.

President.—That is the answer given. Government has given the answer. You have to accept it.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—(3). May I know why it was not done in the interests of retrenchment or economy ?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—Because even Mr. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar was complaining that he was not able to discharge the duty satisfactorily. Government thought it necessary to appoint a Special Officer to look after these duties.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Is that complaint on record, please ?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—Yes.

Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar's acting appointment.

637. Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to inform the Council:—

(1) whether the Government is not aware that the appointment to the Chief Court of Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, who has not been for over four years in touch with the administration of law, is not likely to add to the efficiency in the administration of justice in that court;

(2) will the Government be pleased to say why it did not consider it desirable to elevate the present Government Advocate or any other leading practitioner of the Chief Court to the vacancy in that court;

(3) is it that the Government did not consider the question or is it that the Government could not find any member of the Bar competent for the place in question?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—(1) In the opinion of the Government, the appointment will not impair the efficiency in the administration of justice in the Chief Court.

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(2) They considered the present appointment more desirable.

(3) Vide answer to (2) above.

Mr. C. V. Antony's acting appointment.

638. **Mr. P. Krishna Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to inform the Council:—

(1) (a) will the Government be pleased to say whether the minimum pay of the Excise Superintendent is Rs. 425;

(b) if it is Rs. 425, why the Government did not think it necessary to appoint as Excise Superintendent an officer on the minimum pay instead of taking away a Senior District Judge and giving him the maximum pay of the post, viz., Rs. 750;

(2) (a) is not the Government aware that the scale proposed by the Special Finance Committee for the Excise Superintendent is Rs. 400—600;

(b) is not the Government also aware that at the Special Session of the Legislative Council held in Kanni last a resolution was passed by the Council fixing the pay of Heads of Departments including the Excise Superintendent also at Rs. 400—600;

(c) if so, what was the special urgency, especially when the above proposals are before the Government for orders, to appoint an officer as Excise Superintendent on the maximum pay of Rs. 750;

(3) (a) is not the Government aware that Mr. U. Kandar Menon, one of the senior practitioners of the Bar, as he then was, has acted as Senior District and Sessions Judge when Mr. C. V. Antony was appointed as an acting Puisne Judge of the Chief Court;

(b) is not the Government also aware that he proved himself to be an able District Judge and that his appointment gave entire satisfaction to the litigant public and the legal profession;

(4) will the Government be pleased to inform the Council why he was not selected for the present vacancy but was shunted on to a different Department altogether;

(5) will the Government be pleased to say whether they thought of the desirability of appointing a practising vakil as District and Sessions Judge or at least an Additional District Judge or District Magistrate or District Munsiff in connection with the above-said arrangements; is not the Government aware that they have been repeatedly assuring the Bar that the claims of the competent members of the Bar to all grades of appointments

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